

Father Dave served at five parishes throughout western New York before returning to the Josephinum in 1966 to serve as spiritual director. At this time, Father Dave was invested as a monsignor. His time back at the college was short lived because in 1967 he resigned in order to become a pastor; however, it did teach him valuable lessons about the new things going on in the church after the Second Vatican Council.

On October 22, 1967, Bishop James McNulty of Buffalo assigned Father Dave with forming the new Parish of St. Catherine of Siena. Church services were first held in the West Seneca Town Hall while the new church building was built on the former farm at 4928 Seneca Street. The ground breaking ceremony took place in October of 1967. The first mass was said there on June 1, 1970.

Father Dave had a vision of developing a family-like community. He believed that there were no distinctions between priests and lay people and both should work together. Father Dave always believed in his parishioners and worked to encourage involvement of everyone in the parish. Father Dave knew and believed that everyone has different gifts to offer and the entire community could only benefit from everyone offering their gifts.

This parish and Father Dave holds such a special place in many peoples' hearts. A small example of this is the fact that the membership of this community out stretches my Congressional District. The benefits of this small community that gathers throughout the week in West Seneca have literally been felt throughout the world.

Father Dave will always be a part of St. Catherine's. His vow of no bingo will long echo through St. Catherine's. Father Dave's belief that mass is no place to talk about money will continue to be carried on through the tradition of not passing a basket. Father Dave's goals will still continue to be met when night after night the church building is being used, not just Sundays. Father Dave's work will continue to be seen at every gathering at St. Catherine's when there is every age group represented offering its own gift at every meeting and function. The plain, simple structure of St. Catherine's will always be a mirror image of the exterior of Father Dave, just as the inner warmth, compassion, and love of Father Dave will continue to be felt inside St. Catherine's.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize Father Dave. I wish him a happy and healthy retirement. I also wish the people of the parish he built continue the ways that Father Dave laid down for them. I thank Father Dave for the strong and lasting positive effect he has had on the western New York community.

CONSTITUTION WEEK

HON. JAN MEYERS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 1995

Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, September 17–23 is Constitution Week commemorating the 208th anniversary of the Constitution of the United States. I commend the Daughters of the American Revolution for its efforts to remind all Americans of the importance of the U.S. Constitution.

The success with which Americans secured their liberty through representative government is unparalleled. Our Republic was built upon the foundation of limited government in which a written Constitution preserves individual freedoms and opportunity for all citizens. The ideals upon which this document is based are reinforced each day by the success of the system to which it gave birth. The political system established by our Constitution stresses the need for each citizen to know their rights, freedoms, and duties.

Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to thank the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution in my district who have committed a tremendous amount of time and effort in helping all Americans better understand the Constitution.

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 1995

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Medgar Evers College as a beachhead of enlightenment in urban America which offers an institutional point-of-light as a model for all who care about education. Medgar Evers College is a liberal arts college, a community educational resource, and a pivotal cultural center for Central Brooklyn in New York.

Twenty-five years ago, the college, named for the martyred civil rights leader, was established with a clear mandate—to provide access to higher education for the residents of Central Brooklyn.

On September 28, the college will mark its 25th anniversary with a Founder's Day celebration that will include a commemorative ceremony in honor of the founders and a benefit dinner that will raise funds for student scholarships.

In offering outstanding academic programs and a wide range of services designed to meet the needs of the community, Medgar Evers College, a unit of the City University of New York [CUNY], has amply demonstrated that it is fulfilling its noble mission.

The college should be commended for the caliber of its innovative, career-oriented programs and the foresight it has demonstrated in providing needed services to area residents. Typical is the Small Business Development Center, which was created to deliver management assistance to small and minority-owned businesses in Central Brooklyn through courses, counseling, conferences, and seminars.

With great personal pride, I have watched the birth, growth, and mature refinement of Medgar Evers College. As a commissioner of the Community Development Agency under Mayor John Lindsay, I assisted in the selection of the first Community Advisory Committee for the college. Several years later, as a member of the Higher Education Committee of the New York State Senate, I led the fight to retain the status of the youthful Medgar Evers College as a senior college. This fight was successful; however, in later negotiations with the chancellor of CUNY, a compromise re-

duced the institution to a community college with a few senior college programs. Medgar Evers College must be congratulated for waging a long struggle which culminated in its 1994 redesignation by the New York State Legislature as once more a full-fledged senior college.

Special tribute must be paid to the leadership of this fine institution—its distinguished president, Dr. Edison O. Jackson; its capable and concerned administrative staff; and an experienced and dedicated faculty.

At the benefit dinner, the college will present its first Uhuru Awards to Mrs. Myrlie Evers-Williams, chairperson of the board of the NAACP; Mrs. Coretta Scott King, chairperson of the board of the Center for Non-Violence in Atlanta; Dr. Betty Shabazz, the college's director of public affairs and cultural attaché; Dr. Ramona Hoage Edelin, founder and CEO of the National Urban Coalition; and former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm.

Dr. Jackson assumed the presidency of the college in 1989. These have been exciting years, as evidenced by the fact that during this time, enrollment nearly has tripled; bachelor's degree programs in environmental and computer science have been introduced, as well as an associate degree program in nursing; and a core curriculum has been created to strengthen liberal arts education.

Just as significant is the ongoing effort by the college to internationalize its curriculum and thereby better prepare students to be a part of the global marketplace.

In a recent report in which he articulated his vision for the future, President Jackson spoke of the need to chart the proper course, "to ensure that Medgar Evers College achieves the greatness to which it is destined." He said further:

[O]ur quest is to become one of the premiere institutions in this city, state and nation . . . our intent is to create an institution that will provide high quality academic programs and student support services in response to the many educational, social and economic contemporary challenges facing the community they serve. This unique role which Medgar Evers College is carving out for itself is adding to the richness and diversity of the City University of New York.

Mr. Speaker, its achievements in its relatively brief but eventful history bodes well for a bright future for Medgar Evers College, and as it prepares for the 25th anniversary celebration, the college merits our congratulations and sincerest good wishes for continued success. This relatively new but vibrant institution is truly a Point-of-Light for urban communities throughout the Nation.

TRIBUTE TO MARIE WHIPP

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 1995

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Marie Whipp, a close associate, good friend, and a leader in the California Federation of Teachers for more than 30 years. I worked extensively with Marie during the 1960's and early 1970's, when I was a lawyer for the CFT. I found her to be hard working, diligent, and an excellent advocate for teachers and public education.